RBI has further reported that based on the recommendations of the Nayak Committee, it has simplified the procedure for providing credit to SSI units. All commercial banks has been instructed by RBI to sanction working capital limits of less than Rs. two crores to SSI units on the basis of 20per cent of their projected annual turnover. Banks have also been instructed to give preference to village industries, tiny industries and other small scale units in that order, while meeting the credit requirements of the SSI sector. RBI has also advised banks that all loan applications upto credit limit or Rs. 25,000/- should be disposed of within a fortnight and those over Rs. 25,000/- within 8-9 weeks. All public sector banks were advised by RBI to implement the Seven Point Action Plan to improve the flow of credit to SSI Sector as announced in the Budget for the year 1995-96. Banks have also been advised by RBI to send monthly progress reports. Progress made in the implementation of the plan is being reviewed periodically by RBI.

Implementation of Revival Schemes Sanctioned by BIFR

2232. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has warned the banks and financial institutions to be more vigilant to ensure implementation of revival schemes sanctioned by the Board;

(b) if so, whether any cell has been set up to monitor the half-yearly progress report to be submitted by the sick industries|units;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that it has a Monitoring Division which monitors the implementation of the revival schemes. The monitoring agencies and sick industrial companies concerned are required to send to the BIFR half-yearly progress reports regarding the implementation of revival schemes. BIFR held a meeting of the representatives of the monitoring agencies recently to discuss measures for further improving the monitoring of the implementation of revival schemes.

(d) Does not arise.

Rent for Bank Lockers

2233. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Nationalised Banks have doubled the rents for bank lockers;

(b) if so, the justification and whether the cost of this service doubled in a single year; whether it is mandatory to give prior intimation to locker holders for such increase;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some banks are charging advance rent for three years, without intimation to locker holders; and

(d) what action Government proposes to such monopolistic practices as locker holders have no other choice,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Some nationalised banks have increased the locker rent by 50 percent to 100 percen depending on size of the locker, location of the branch etc. Most of these banks have revised the rent after a period of five years. In view of substantial increase in various input costs like ren. of branch premises, capital cost of locker, establishment cost etc. banks had to increase the rental of lockers.

(c) Options are given by some banks to the locker-holders to pay three years rent in advance with prior intimation to them in terms of Reserve Bank of